Exhibit A

8

5/22/01

Objective: To coat a monolayer of amino-Silane as organic layer on stent to function as a primer prior to polymer coating. This experiment was conducted by Peiwen Cheng and B. Sundar

Preparation of Amino Silane

0.5 mL	Amino Silane T2910 (5% Solution)
9.0 mL	Methanol HPLC grade
0.5 mL	Water (De-ionized Sterile)
10.0 mL	Total

Amino Silane Vendor: United Chemical Technology
Chemical Name: Trimethoxy-Silyl propyl diethylene triamine
T2910 Catalog item. STENTS were immersed for 1 minute in Amino Silane before coating in the PCL.

Preparation of 1% PCL Solution

Weight of PCL	= 1.0043 grams
Volume of THF	= 99.0 mL
TOTAL	≈ 100 mL

LOT number of PCL = D99142

Cleaning of Stents (Total 10 stents)

1st IPA Sonication	= 5 minutes
1st DI Water Sonication	= 5 minutes
2nd IPA Sonication	= 5 minutes
1st DI Water Soak	
2nd DI Water Soak	
NaOH (1N) Sonication	= 5 minutes
DI Water Sonication	= 5 minutes
DI Water Sonication	= 5 minutes
DI Water Sonication	= 5 minutes
Nitrogen Dry	(Lost 4 stents during N2 blow dry)
Heated in oven (no Vacuum)	= 15 minutes @ 50°C

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Stents were removed from oven after 15 minutes and immersed in 1% PCL solution for 10 seconds and placed on Carousel rack for drying.
Three bare stents had amino silane treatment (experiment) while the remaining three were control and had no treatment. The carousel rack was placed in an oven (no vaccum) at 50°C for ~ 1.5 hours. They were cooled for about 5 minutes and inspected under a microscope.

Microscope observations

It appears that the amino silane coated stents had more wetting of the polymer (PCL) there were less bare metal visible. Bench more coating damage. The control appeared to be less wettable.

Coating observations

One 5% solution of amino silane is probably too much for imparting a mono layer. After coating the stent and curing it for 15 minutes one noticed (Peiwen cheng & R. Sundar) that there was white powdery material adhered to stents.

Future concentration of amino silane solution should be targeted for 1% or less. ☺

These experiments are designated as follows:

8-1118-1
-2 } Control
-3

8-1118-4
-5 } with Amino Silane T2910
-6

Samples 8-1118-1 & 8-1118-6 to be submitted to SEM lab.

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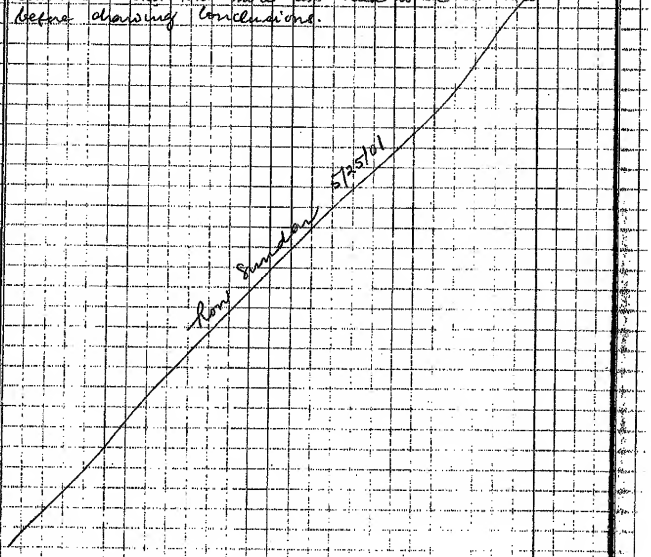
Coating a monolayer of amino silane as prime

SEM observations

SEM observations via several photos show that the amino silane treated stents had less metal exposure or more wetting. However this could be misleading since the stents were not subjected to comparative dipping by hand. There is some indication that wettability with the use of amino silane is somewhat better but more tests need to be conducted before drawing conclusions.



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